

PATENT Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 02734.0495

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Paul J. RUTHVEN et al.

Serial No.: 10/036,770

Filed: December 21, 2001

For:

AN APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DEGRADING A WEB IN THE MACHINE DIRECTION WHILE PRESERVING CROSS-MACHINE

DIRECTION STRENGTH

Group Art Unit: 1772

Examiner: P. Nordmeyer

GROUP TOO

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement dated March 24, 2003, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between:

Group I - Claims 1-68 and 113, drawn to an embossing system for embossing and perforating; classified in class 101, subclass 22;

Group II - Claims 69-103 and 112, drawn to a method for embossing and perforating at least a portion of a web, classified in class 162, subclass 100; and

Group III - Claims 104-111, drawn to a perforate embossed web, classified in class 428, subclass 131.

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Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group II, Claims 69-103 and 112, drawn to a method for embossing and perforating at least a portion of a web, classified in class 162, subclass 100, without traverse.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 14, 2003

Barry D. Biddle

Reg. No. 44,033

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